
U.S. Department of the Interior • U.S. Geological Survey

MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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SODA ASH AND SODIUM SULFATE IN AUGUST 1996

Natural soda ash production in August was 809,000 metric tons, 2% lower than the previous month's production, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Ending inventories were 264,000 tons, an 11% decrease from that of the preceding month. Wyoming trona production in August was 1,310,000 tons. Total production of chemical caustic soda as soda ash equivalent, based on data from all three producers, was 17,600 tons in August.

Apparent consumption of soda ash for July was 503,000 tons,

11% lower than the July 1995 level of 566,000 tons. Exports and imports of soda ash in July were 315,000 tons and 8,630 tons, respectively.

The cumulative soda ash statistics through July 1996, compared with those of the corresponding period in 1995, were as follows: production slightly lower, imports 22% higher, exports 1% higher, ending stocks 68% higher, and apparent consumption 2% lower.

TABLE 1
SALIENT SODA ASH AND NATURAL SODIUM SULFATE STATISTICS 1/

Period	Soda ash (Thousand metric tons)		Natural sodium sulfate (Metric tons)	
	Production 2/	Ending stocks	Production	Ending stocks
1995:				
July	860	176	26,100	27,600
August	840	188	26,500	18,700
September	845	185	25,900	11,400
October	870	193	33,200	19,000
November	876	254	30,100	18,800
December	907	306	26,300	16,400
Total (Jan-Aug)	6,600	XX	212,000	XX
Total	10,100	XX	327,000	XX
1996:				
January	765	287	26,800	18,200
February	811	329	28,700	18,000
March	790	257	32,400	20,700
April	836	215	24,200	23,400
May	852	260	15,500	11,300
June	859	284	26,400	14,700
July	822	296	22,100	12,300
August	809	264	24,100	15,700
Total	6,540	XX	200,000	XX

XX Not applicable.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Production data includes soda ash equivalent from soda liquors only. Soda ash equivalent from mine water is not included. Soda liquors for the current year 1996 are withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

TABLE 2
U.S. EXPORTS OF SODA ASH AND SODIUM SULFATE 1/

(Metric tons)

Period	Disodium carbonate		Disodium Sulfate				Total	
	Quantity (thousand metric tons)	Value 2/ (thousands)	Salt Cake		Other		Quantity	Value 2/ (thousands)
			Quantity	Value 2/ (thousands)	Quantity	Value 2/ (thousands)		
1995:								
July	279	\$34,500	12,600	\$1,100	479	\$105	13,000	\$1,200
August	278	36,200	1,570	168	1,300	725	2,870	893
September	334	45,200	9,760	923	2,490	226	12,200	1,150
October	320	41,700	1,390	111	671	187	2,060	298
November	275	36,600	1,580	131	487	170	2,070	301
December	286	36,300	10,400	793	192	84	10,600	877
Total (Jan-Jul)	2,080	249,000	34,800	2,740	1,770	998	36,600	3,730
Total	3,570	445,000	59,500	4,860	6,910	2,390	66,400	7,250
1996: 3/								
January	300	38,700	4,060	317	108	43	4,160	360
February	314	42,100	14,000	1,040	212	88	14,200	1,130
March	270	35,900	2,000	172	2,350	576	4,340	748
April	349	45,300	8,260	646	31	16	8,290	662
May	217	29,000	104	17	63	38	167	55
June	337	43,800	13,300	1,290	43	17	13,400	1,310
July	315	42,000	12,500	695	29	20	12,600	715
Total	2,100	277,000	54,300	4,180	2,830	798	57,100	4,980

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Free alongside ship (f.a.s.) value at U.S. ports.

3/ August 1996 data not available at time of publication.

Source: Bureau of the Census, as adjusted by the U.S. Geological Survey, using Journal of Commerce trade data and information.

TABLE 3
U.S. EXPORTS OF SODA ASH BY COUNTRY, 1996 1/

(Metric tons)

Country	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Total Quantity	% of total
Argentina	13,000	--	8,950	--	--	--	22,200	44,200	2
Australia	--	--	5,000	--	--	--	5,000	10,000	--
Belgium	6,900	5,610	--	27,600	--	15,000	--	55,200	3
Bolivia	2,500	--	1,100	--	--	--	1,010	4,610	--
Brazil	34	42,300	17,800	7,050	--	--	5,040	72,200	3
Canada	16,700	21,300	23,900	14,100	17,300	20,200	26,900	141,000	7
Chile	21,900	--	19,100	--	17,200	--	24,600	82,800	4
China	13,000	--	8,000	4,970	4,500	--	4,500	35,000	2
Colombia	11,700	11,100	--	11,600	--	11,000	10,900	56,300	3
Costa Rica	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	1	--
Croatia	--	--	--	8,840	--	5,870	--	14,700	1
Dominican Republic	--	2,160	--	--	--	--	--	2,160	--
El Salvador	--	--	--	--	--	--	1,000	1,000	--
Germany	--	--	124	--	42	--	--	166	--
Ghana	--	--	--	--	--	--	16	16	--
Guatemala	--	5	3,500	--	--	--	3,300	6,800	--
Honduras	--	--	--	--	--	--	200	200	--
Hong Kong	--	--	40	--	63	71	--	174	--
Indonesia	23,500	25,500	44,400	42,100	23,600	35,100	26,500	221,000	11
Ireland	383	--	--	--	392	--	583	1,360	--
Israel	--	--	8,000	--	--	--	--	8,000	--
Jamaica	2,000	29	--	--	--	--	1,990	4,020	--
Japan	7,900	36,400	--	39,600	11,600	46,400	27,700	170,000	8
Korea, Republic of	15,100	22,700	5,290	43,600	27,100	30,800	54,800	199,000	9
Malaysia	10,500	--	--	8,800	12,500	--	9,920	41,700	2
Mexico	33,200	39,300	34,600	32,700	26,800	34,100	28,100	229,000	11
Netherlands	--	--	2	--	--	101	--	103	--
New Zealand	40	20	40	7,070	--	20	4,020	11,200	1
Panama	--	--	--	--	2,000	--	--	2,000	--
Peru	4,020	--	4,140	--	6,230	--	--	14,400	1
Philippines	12,300	12,300	10,000	--	11,300	13,800	--	59,500	3
Saudi Arabia	18,000	--	--	17,500	3,790	22,000	22,000	83,300	4
Singapore	--	--	--	4,970	--	--	--	4,970	--
South Africa	--	24,500	27,100	25,000	--	25,100	--	102,000	5
Spain	11,400	--	--	--	16,000	9,300	--	36,700	2
Sweeden	--	--	--	32	--	--	--	32	--
Taiwan	21,700	13,600	21,200	12,900	15,500	--	22,600	107,000	5
Thailand	23,000	28,000	25,000	8,300	21,500	20,500	12,300	139,000	7
Trinidad and Tobago	--	--	1,360	--	--	--	--	1,360	--
Turkey	--	--	--	7,310	--	--	--	7,310	--
United Kingdom	--	1	--	--	--	--	1	2	--
Uruguay	--	--	1,000	--	--	--	--	1,000	--
Uzbekistan	--	--	7	--	--	--	--	7	--
Venezuela	30,800	29,200	--	24,500	--	47,900	--	132,000	6
Total	300,000	314,000	270,000	349,000	217,000	337,000	315,000	2,100,000	100

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 4
U.S. IMPORTS OF SODA ASH AND SODIUM SULFATE 1/

(Metric tons)

Period	Disodium carbonate		Disodium Sulfate				Total	
	Value 3/		Saltcake 2/		Other		Value 3/	
	Quantity	(thousands)	Quantity	(thousands)	Quantity	(thousands)	Quantity	(thousands)
1995:								
July	6,840	\$954	10,700	\$990	5,480	\$348	16,100	\$1,340
August	6,640	938	9,920	1,030	4,740	300	14,700	1,330
September	6,770	968	10,500	911	6,750	462	17,200	1,370
October	8,040	1,150	12,400	1,130	5,310	365	17,700	1,490
November	6,240	899	11,000	1,150	5,140	338	16,100	1,490
December	6,480	891	12,400	1,180	3,620	289	16,000	1,470
Total (Jan-Jul)	48,500	7,150	77,500	7,090	47,100	3,490	125,000	10,600
Total	82,700	12,000	134,000	12,500	72,600	5,250	206,000	17,700
1996: 4/								
January	8,130	1,140	12,000	1,120	4,070	276	16,000	1,390
February	7,400	1,050	10,300	966	3,260	279	13,600	1,250
March	9,460	1,330	13,500	1,150	2,920	220	16,400	1,370
April	8,510	1,200	11,200	993	1,950	186	13,100	1,180
May	8,440	1,130	13,700	1,330	1,690	184	15,400	1,510
June	8,770	1,200	14,400	1,400	2,250	342	16,600	1,750
July	8,630	1,180	9,940	987	3,800	405	13,700	1,390
Total	59,300	8,230	84,900	7,940	19,900	1,890	105,000	9,840

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes Glauber's salt.

3/ Customs, insurance, and freight (c.i.f) value at U.S. ports.

4/ August 1996 data not available at time of publication.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 5
U. S. APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF SODA ASH 1/

(Metric tons)

Period	Production	Imports	Exports	Net Stock		Apparent consumption 2/
				Increase or Decrease		
1995:						
July	860,000	6,840	279,000	22,000	--	566,000
August	840,000	6,640	278,000	12,000	--	557,000
September	845,000	6,770	334,000	--	3,000	521,000
October	870,000	8,040	320,000	8,000	--	550,000
November	876,000	6,240	275,000	61,000	--	546,000
December	907,000	6,480	286,000	52,000	--	575,000
Total (Jan-Jul)	5,760,000	48,500	2,080,000	--	27,000	3,760,000
Total	10,100,000	82,700	3,570,000	103,000	--	6,510,000
1996:						
January	765,000	8,130	300,000	--	19,000	493,000
February	811,000	7,400	314,000	42,000	--	462,000
March	790,000	9,460	270,000	--	72,000	602,000
April	836,000	8,510	349,000	--	42,000	538,000
May	852,000	8,440	217,000	45,000	--	598,000
June	859,000	8,770	337,000	24,000	--	506,000
July	822,000	8,630	315,000	12,000	--	503,000
August	809,000	NA	NA	--	32,000	NA
Total (Jan-Jul)	5,740,000	59,300	2,100,000	--	10,000	3,700,000

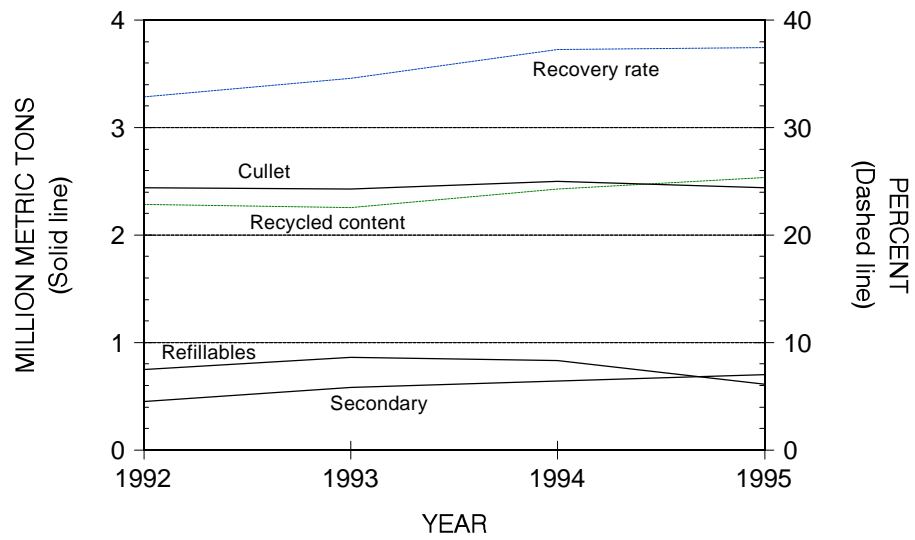
NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Production plus imports minus exports plus or minus stock changes.

U.S. RECOVERY AND RECYCLING OF GLASS CONTAINERS

1992-1995



Source: Glass Packaging Institute.